

R. I. STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

MINUTES OF MEETING

March 7, 2006

The Rhode Island State Board of Elections convened at 3:04 P.M. A quorum included Chairman Roger Begin, Vice Chair Thomas Iannitti, Commissioners John Daluz, Florence Gormley, Frank Rego and Raymond Xavier. Also, present, Executive Director Robert Kando and Counsel to the Board, Raymond Marcaccio.

First order of business, Vice Chair Iannitti motioned to approve the minutes as presented from meetings held on 1/24/06 and 2/7/06. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Xavier and was approved unanimously.

At this time, Vice Chair Iannitti motioned that the public hearing concerning Rules and Regulations Regarding Ballot Question Advocacy proposed for adoption by the Rhode Island Board of Elections, be moved to the top of the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rego and passed unanimously. Chairman Begin asked if anyone would like to offer testimony in regards to this matter. The following came forward: Steven Brown, ACLU; Allan Stein, United Way; Ari Matusiak, Rhode Island Foundation; Phil West and Charles Sturtevant, Common Cause. Following these individuals, Chair Begin invited legal counsel Marcaccio to offer any comments to the Board that he may have

regarding this matter. At this time, Vice Chair Iannitti motioned that the Board table the rules and regulations regarding the ballot question advocacy, (Note: Due to a possible change in legislation regarding this matter), the motion was seconded by Commissioner Gormley and carried unanimously.

Next order of business, Elections Director Robert Rapoza presented to the Board a draft of the Election Official pin for the 2006 year. Following a discussion, Chair Begin recommended that this be reviewed further and that the Board be informed as to what is decided for a recommendation.

Next order of business, the Board discussed the Rules of Practice and Procedure in Adjudicatory Hearings before the Rhode Island Board of Elections. Following the discussion, Vice Chair Iannitti motioned that the Board adopt the Rules of Practice and Procedure in Adjudicatory Hearings. The motion carried unanimously. (Note: Pursuant to and in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act [R.I.G.L. § 42-35 et seq.], the Board of Elections invited interested parties to offer testimony on the above matter at a public hearing held on 11/13/03.)

Next order of business, a discussion on scheduling dates to hold public hearings and possible adoption on the following matters; Rules and Regulations relating to the challenging of mail ballots; and Rules and Regulations relating to the tabulation of mail ballots.

Executive Director Kando recommended a tentative hearing date of May 2, 2006.

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Next order of business, Director Kando informed the Board that the following rules and regulations would need to be readopted and that they be placed on the May 2, 2006 meeting agenda; Rules & regulations adopted by the Rhode Island Board of Elections pursuant to Title 17, Chapter 28 of the Rhode Island General Laws entitled “Address Confidentiality for Victims of Domestic Abuse”.

Next order of business, Vice Chair Iannitti motioned that the Board go into Executive Session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws § 42-46-5(a)(4), campaign finance matters: and § 42-46-5(1), personnel matters. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Xavier and carried unanimously. At 4:15 P.M., the Board recessed into Executive

Session.

At 4:32 P.M. and upon completion of the Board's discussion, Vice Chair Iannitti motioned that the Board come out of Executive Session; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Gormley and carried unanimously. Commissioner Gormley motioned that the minutes of the Executive Session be sealed, the motion was seconded by Vice Chair Iannitti and carried unanimously.

The Executive Director's report to the Board included a discussion of the status of the following: Legal expenses and procedures; leasing of off-site storage space; Campaign Finance Electronic Reporting and Tracking System (ERTS), the Chairman requested a report with a timeline of execution at the next meeting; and the purchase of additional voting machines.

At 4:52 P.M. and with no further business, Vice Chair Iannitti motioned to adjourn, Commissioner Gormley seconded the motion, and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Taylor